

Message Text

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53

ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-10 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-14 USIA-04 FBO-01 A-01 AF-04 EA-07 NEA-06

CPR-01 DRC-01 /091 W

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P R 101122Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3916

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 8685

DEPARTMENT PASS DEPUTY ASST SECRETARY ROBERT O. BLAKE (IO)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, IAEA, UN, AU, UNIDO

SUBJECT: COSTA RICAN AMBASSADOR MUDDIES WATERS ON VAT EXEMPTION
ISSUE AS RELATED TO GOA'S THIRD UN CITY OFFER

REF: VIENNA 8588

1. BRAZILIAN AND URUGUYAN AMBASSADORS CALLED ME LAST EVENING TO SAY THAT AMBASSADOR OF COSTA RICA ARNALDO ORTIZ LOPEZ HAD MET WITH THE LATIN AMERICAN AMBASSADORS ACCREDITED TO VIENNA AND REPORTED ON THE RESULTS OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS COMMITTEE MEETING DESCRIBED VIENNA 8588. AMBASSADOR LOPEZ, WHO IS CONSIDERED SOMEWHAT OF AN UNGUIDED MISSILE IN DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES HERE, APPARENTLY ALSO PRESENTED A DRAFT TELEGRAM WHICH HE SAID THE COMMITTEE HAD RECOMMENDED BE SENT TO EACH GOVERNMENT ACCREDITED TO VIENNA.

2. ACCORDING TO THE BRAZILIAN, THE LEAD OF LOPEZ' TELEGRAM URGED SUPPORT FOR A QUOTE PROPOSAL BY THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION TO THE UN IN NEW YORK TO POSTPONE DEBATE ON THE GOA'S OFFER OF VIENNA AS THE 'THIRD UN CITY' END QUOTE.

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3. THIS IS OF COURSE TOTALLY INACCURATE. THE FACTS ARE AS OUTLINED IN MY 8588, NAMELY THAT IT WAS THE UNANIMOUS DECISION OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS COMMITTEE THAT EACH AMBASSADOR ACCREDITED TO VIENNA SEND A TELEGRAM TO HIS GOVERNMENT REQUESTING SUPPORT FOR THE COMMITTEE'S UNANIMOUS RECOMMENDATION THAT UN DEBATE ON THE GOA PROPOSAL BE DELAYED, THUS GIVING TIME FOR THE COMMITTEE TO CALL ON CHANCELLOR KREISKY AND PRESENT ITS VIEWS REGARDING DIPLOMATIC EXEMPTIONS FOR VAT.

4. I HAVE CLARIFIED SITUATION TO BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR WHO UNDERTOOK TO STRAIGHTEN OUT IN THE LATIN AMERICAN GROUP WHATEVER CONFUSION MAY HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY THE EBULLIENT COSTA RICAN. HUMES

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
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